

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Timothy M. Bronson and Brian V. Fiala  
Serial Number: 10/044,108  
Date Filed: January 11, 2002  
Title: Valley Truss Uplift Resistance Strap With Wedge and Method of Use  
Examiner: Christy M. Green  
Group Art Unit: 3635

February 28, 2003

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Commissioner:

This communication is in response to a first Office Action dated January 28, 2003, wherein an Election was requested. The response herein provides an Election of Group 4 and a traverse arguing that all embodiments disclosed in the original Figs. 1-21 should be considered as a part of the same patentable invention for examination purposes. The applicants herein also propose the addition of an illustration for a molded embodiment with a solid wedge, as Fig. 22, since a drawing specifically showing a molded embodiment or one with a solid wedge was not included in the original disclosure. As a result of the Examiner's election/restriction requirement, the applicants now believe that such an illustration would assist in explaining the variations proposed in the present invention. The applicants believe that no new matter will be added as a result including Fig. 22 as a part of the invention disclosure, and they rely on Exhibit "A" attached hereto as an illustration of how visually similar the embodiment disclosed in Fig. 15 is to that in the newly proposed Fig. 22. Also, both embodiments read on the original claim 1, as can be seen in the Remarks below.